



michigan organization of nurse executives

Jane E. Renwick RN, MSA, CENP
Past President, MONE
Chairperson, MONE Advocacy Committee
2301 Whisper Cove Drive SE
Kentwood, Michigan 49508
248-489-6866
jrenwick@comcast.net

October 29, 2009

Re: Senate Bill 605

Dear Members of the Senate Health Policy Committee,

The *Michigan Organization of Nurse Executives* membership is comprised of Michigan Registered Nurses in leadership roles across the care continuum. It is our desire to work with elected officials, legislators and state leadership in solving Michigan's nursing issues. MONE members have a wealth of front-line nursing experience in hospitals and understand the complexities of the state's health care delivery system.

MONE would like to share our position statement on Senate Bill 605. We are not in support of the Nurse Circulator Bill. We would ask that the committee review our position statement as it takes testimony on this bill. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

Jane E. Renwick RN, MSA, CENP

Attachment



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Position Statement Title: Nurse Circulator Legislation SB 605

Effective Date: October 29, 2009

The Michigan Organization of Nurse Executives support a patient's right to high quality, safe care – additionally recognizes the patient in the operative environment is especially vulnerable to potential risk. Ensuring that these rights are maintained is a challenging and complex task that requires flexibility, critical thinking, and sound professional judgment. Such decision-making and judgment has been entrusted to the licensed professional registered nurse by virtue of the State of Michigan Public Health Code PA 368.

MONE supports the good intention of the RN Circulator Bill, in that surgical services should always be provided in a manner that protects the health and safety of patients in accordance with generally accepted standards of practice and federally driven conditions of participation for hospitals and health systems.

Position:

The Michigan Organization of Nurse Executives is in agreement with the Michigan Hospital Association in opposition to any legislation that mandates staffing ratios.

MONE believes any legislative mandate dictating staffing levels is unnecessary. Determination of adequate staffing is a criterion for accreditation and a professional expectation of nursing leadership. As noted earlier, and as referenced within the proposed bill, such standards are already embedded within our hospital conditions of participation. CMS regulations state, "The operating rooms **must** be supervised by an experienced registered nurse or doctor of medicine or osteopathy", *and* "In accordance with State laws and approved medical staff policies and procedures, LPNs and surgical technologists may **assist** in circulatory duties **under the supervision of a registered nurse...**".

Summary:

While the premise of the proposed bill is well intended and speaks to common support of patient safety in the operative arena, we believe that put into law simply opens the door for additional unnecessary law and legislation related to hospital staffing. This legislation would add another layer of regulatory monitoring which would require additional resources. These resources would have to be taken away from other patient care priorities.

Rather than expending energy, resources, and deliberations around Nurse Circulator legislation, MONE suggests support and advocacy for the Michigan Nurse Corp. We recommend legislators join the Nursing Community and align in support of the Michigan Nursing Agenda and the strategies outlined in this comprehensive plan for addressing the issues affecting Michigan Nurses.

References

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS]. (2007-current). Regulation for conditions of participation. Surgical services, 482.51.

Senate Bill No. 605

State of Michigan Public Health Code PA 368. (n.d.). Compiled Laws Complete Through PA 39, and 48 of 2009. PUBLIC HEALTH CODE. Act 368 of 1978.

J. Young 7/2009
J. Renwick 10/29/0